

Chapter Chatter

Issue

November/December 2007

Special points of interest:

- Letter from the Prez/ Annual report
- Fall meeting wrap up
- CCL meeting summary

Inside this issue:

Greetings	1
Annual Report	1-3
Fall Conference 2007 –wrap up	4
CCL meeting	5
Member benefits	6

Greetings from the President!

One of the highlights of the Fall Meeting at Deer Creek is the installation of new Officers and Board Members.. This year, we welcomed Wanda Broerman as the Treasurer and head of the Finance Committee, and Patsy Bryant as a new Board Member.

During the public meeting, the committee chairs gave an update on the progress they made through the year. And boy! Did they make progress! And Boy! Did they make plans! The Strategic Planning meeting was dynamic and packed full of ideas for next year.

But let's just take a minute and enjoy the fruits of their labor

Cynthia Griffith, President
 Six Rivers Chapter CLMA.



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**SIX RIVERS CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT
 October, 2007**

Strategic Planning Committee Report Joyce Dicks, Chair

- Annual planning meeting – October 4, 2007, Deer Creek
- New and returning board members
- Reviewed revised CLMA Chapter Success Standards and best practices of winning chapters as a means of identifying strengths and weaknesses.
- Cynthia provided chapter leader transition checklists and documents.
- Bylaw revision on hold until CLMA Board presents new version at CCL meeting in November.
- Committee chairs to update specific section of plan.

Nomination Committee Report Joyce Dicks, Chair

- Initiated nomination process in July 2007.
- Met via email & conference calls.
- Solicited Board input; invited members.
- Identified need to maintain diverse board representing chapter geographic areas and job categories.
- Recruited members who had not previously served (one for Treasurer; and two for board of director)
- One board of director agreed to rerun for this position.
- One experienced board member agreed to run for secretary.
- Balloting via Survey Monkey; member participation at 51%.

Annual Report (con't)

Finance Report Paul Labbe, Interim Chair

As of September 4, 2007, the Chapter has a working balance of \$16,910.18

Professional Outreach Committee – Kathy Good, Chair

- This committee reviewed the applications of laboratory science students from all over the area and awarded 3 scholarships to deserving candidates: 1 \$1000.00 and 2 \$500.00 checks were given to students at their schools in Cincinnati, Dayton, and Columbus.
- These students were also awarded a one year membership to CLMA
- Since the disbursement from the Ohio River Valley meeting was dedicated to the Scholarship Fund this year, as of August, 2007, it had a balance of \$4,000.00.
- Thank you to everyone who helped us raise money for these scholarships by participating in the Silent Auction

Communication Committee- Renee Cuevas, Chair

This past year had been a very successful one for the Six Rivers Chapter.

The Communication Committee had several goals that were accomplished this past year. They are:

- Enhancement of the website by providing pictures of events. Also by providing links to events, activities and postings.
- Having links to all of our meeting minutes and newsletter for membership
- Communicating with membership at large monthly via e-mail to update them on any changes and up-coming events
- Using SurveyMonkey to have the board elections and getting 50.5% response from membership.

In the next year we look to invite members to meetings using E-vite. We also will begin accepting on-line payments for events by using Pay-Pal.

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Fall Conference Pictures



Program and Education Committee Update

Fall Conference Wrap-Up

We recently wrapped our first **two full-day** fall conference!

The first day of the conference we held the Six Rivers Strategic Planning meeting and had our opening speaker, **Paul Epner** from Abbott Diagnostics. While the executive team and board members are required to attend, this meeting is always open to all members! Please join us next year. Paul discussed **Owning the Total Testing Process** and the **CLMA Good Practice Sharing Program**, complete with three attendees' case studies. This was a great opportunity for information sharing.



Thursday night was our networking dinner at the "haunted" Harding Cabin, with over 45 vendors and members in attendance. There was also a Texas Hold'Em tournament where the winner walked away with a great poker set donated by Dade Behring.

On Friday we were quickly back to business with vendor exhibits and the meeting. The morning agenda included an overview of **Laboratory Compliance Plan Auditing and Monitoring** by Christopher Young. After lunch we enjoyed Michael Borden's discussion of **Generational Management: Finding and Holding Onto Talent in the Multi-Generation Workplace**.

There were a total of 19 vendor and sponsor registrations sent in. We are so appreciative of their support! If you see any of the vendors below, please thank them for supporting our chapter!

B & B Microscopes
 BD
 Bio-Rad Laboratories
 Biosite
 ChildLab
 Cleveland Clinic Reference Laboratory
 Dade Behring
 HemoCue, Inc
 ITC
 Inverness Medical
 LabCorp
 Millipore Corporation
 Nova Biomedical
 Orchard Software Corp.
 Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc.
 Roche
 South Bend Medical Foundation
 TechSolve, Inc.

Speaker Sponsors: Fisher Healthcare
 Abbott Laboratories

A special "thank you" goes to Wanda Smith-Broerman who organized the silent auction for CLT/CLS student scholarships! Because of Wanda's work and everyone who donated, we were able to raise over \$1000 towards the scholarship funds, another record breaking year!

It was a wonderful meeting and everyone enjoyed catching up. Thanks to all who helped and participated in making the conference a great success! Check out the Six Rivers website for pictures of the event!

Save the Date for next year! The meeting is the first week of October each year. So mark your calendars for 2008! Our fall conference will be held on October 2nd and 3rd, 2008.

Jade Wilson, Chair, Program and Education

Chapter Leaders Meeting in Atlanta 2007

As a first time attendee to the CLMA chapter leaders meeting held November 3rd in Atlanta, Georgia the location for the next ThinkLab '08, I did not know what to expect. I had imagined that there would be 40-50 people there that knew everyone except me (imagine no one knowing who I amJ); that there would be this strict meeting organizer and the interactions would be polite at best.

What I found was a group of individuals warm and pleasant, welcoming all the newbie's and wanting to hear our opinions on how to help move the organization forward. Everyone sharing what they do and how they do it and camaraderie that is welcomed in a world where everyone is in competition with one another, was the order of the day.

The day started with breakfast, introductions and an update on the "state of the association." The rest of the morning was dedicated to the discussion of the Task Forces: the chapter success standards, chapter development, young people/ student representation, regional meetings and bylaws and CCL succession planning.

The chapter success standards were explained and how they have been adjusted to fit both the large and small chapter; so that all chapters can accomplish them and strive to improve.

The young person's task force (under 40 years of age- yes I am still considered young) task is to attract individuals under 40, and students, and get them involved in leadership roles.

The new, rejuvenating and inactive chapter task force discussed ways to attract and retain members. One way to recognize long term members was to place "member since" on name badges. They also have the idea of MENTOR. This is an acronym for membership, education, networking, teamwork, opportunities and resources. The task force asked for ideas on how individual chapters do each of these well.

Regional meetings and sponsorship were talked about and how we can increase support. One thought was to notify your audience way, way, way in advance. This provides us and them with the advance notice, time to get the speakers and get the dollars needed to make the meetings happen.

The Chapter by-laws and affiliation agreement were distributed and reviewed. It was explained that in the past, the by-laws had information on how the chapters were affiliated and the affiliation agreement had information in it that stated how the chapters should be run. Now the updated by-laws purpose is for all chapters to have a uniform agreement with National on how to run the chapter. In the past each chapter submitted their own set of by-laws and all were different in some way, shape or form. We now have a standardized template for chapter organization. The updated affiliation agreement is the standardized agreement between the chapter and national.

We had a PAC update, presented by Kathy Ayres, speaking on the Modernization of the clinical laboratory fee schedule as well as competitive bidding.

After lunch the tables had signs on them, each with the name of a task forces. We were asked to sit at a table that interested us and where our talents could be utilized. Each table/task force group had round table discussions and came up with ideas to implement the task force on a larger scale and/or share ideas that work in the individual chapters that could work for other chapters.

We finished up the day with two speakers/talks. The first talk, "Just say no", where the overall theme was to not always yes. The message was to have the people who come in your office with the problem/issue/"monkey on their back" leave with problem so that they can work on the solution. Just give them suggestions and let them work on the problem. The second, "Hope is not a method," general message is to look for the opportunities to excel as an organization.

Many of us also participated in CLMA SmartLab Workshop on Sunday- "Impact Patient Safety from the Laboratory". We worked through the questions and found that while we are from different parts of the country, different types of systems, different laboratories we all faced the same issues, when it come to patient safety. The consensus here is that we would all like to get one thing correct when it comes to this issue: accurate patient identification.

So what did I walk away with?...like so many times we hear, there is no "I" in team, we need many and different people to move forward as an organization, we all face many of the same issues and "crap happens, it is the frequency that is the issue." Would I attend another CCL meeting? Definitely. The camaraderie, the new energy you hope to take with you back to your chapter, the new friends you make and the old friends you see in a different light are all worth the experience.

Renee Cuevas, President-elect

SIX RIVERS CLMA

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What are the Benefits of becoming a CLMA Member?

By joining CLMA, not only will you have access to all of CLMA's programs, publications, and advocacy resources, but you will broaden your professional contacts through both online and in-person networking opportunities. As a member of CLMA you will have had the opportunity to meet laboratory professionals from all levels, and it is this interaction that has proven so valuable in building and honing my management skills to grow professionally.

To learn more about CLMA, visit the following web sites:

Six Rivers CLMA Chapter website: www.sixriversclma.org

National CLMA website: www.clma.org



Board of Directors meeting

Need up dates on what is going on with National CLMA?

Go to the CLMA website for updates on the Board of Directors meetings, educational programs, local chapter highlights and many other features. Visit: www.clma.org